

## Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /086 W  
----- 064417

O R 281200Z FEB 76 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7867

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMCONSUL TANGIER

USMISSION USUN

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

FOSIF ROTA

COMSIXTHFLT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 1162

ALGIERS FOR ASST SECY ATHERTON

USCINCEUR AND CINCUSNAVEUR ALSO FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PBOR MO SS SP AG MR

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN REACTIONS TO "SAHARAN REPUBLIC"

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REF: RABAT 1157, ALGIERS 522

1. SUMMARY: KING HAS ISSUED MESSAGE TO FAR DENOUNCING CREATION OF "SAHARAN DEMOCRATIC ARAB REPUBLIC" AND AFFIRMING HIS DETERMINATION TO DEFEND NATION'S INTEGRITY & SECURITY BY ALL POSSIBLE MEANS. AT FARWELL DINNER FOR AMBASSADOR FEB 28 MINISTER OF INFORMATION BENHIMA STATED (A) ALGERIAN CLAIM THAT SDAR HEADQUARTERED IN BIR LEHLOU WAS A CONARD, SDAR EXISTED ONLY WITHIN ALGERIAN TERRITORY, AND STEPS WOULD BE TAKEN TO PROVE IT; (B) KING'S MESSAGE CONSTITUTED ORDER TO FAR TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT NO SUCH ENTITY WOULD BE ALLOWED TO ESTABLISH ITSELF ON MOROCCAN SIDE OF BORDER. END SUMMARY.

2. KING'S MESSAGE: MORNING PRESS HEADLINED SHORT MESSAGE APPEARING ON MAP TICKER YESTERDAY EVENING FROM KING HASSAN TO MOROCCAN ARMED FORCES (FAR). MESSAGE WHICH WAS FIRM IN TONE BUT MEASURED AND CALM, NOTED ANNOUNCEMENT IN ALGIERS OF QTE CREATION OF (INNERQTE) STATE (END INNERQTE) NEBULOUSLY NAMED (INNERQTE) REPUBLIQUE ARABE SAHRAOUIE DEMOCRATIQUE (END INNERQTE) UNQTE. AFTER REFERRING SCRONFULLY TO EARLIER REPORTED ALGERIAN INTENTION TO ESTABLISH SAHRAOUI GOVT IN EXILE AT TINDOUF, KING NOTED CLAIM THAT THE FLAG OF THE NEW "STATE" WAS FLYING ALL OVER SAKIET-EL-HARURD AND WADI DHEHAB. "WE KNOW", HE SAID, "THAT THERE'S NOTHING TO THIS", WHICH IS BEING SAID ONLY TO SOW DOUBT AND CONFUSE INTERNATIONAL OPINION. HE CONCLUDED; "WE ARE DETERMINED TO DEFEND BY ALL POSSIBLE MEANS THE INTEGRITY OF THE KINGDON, THE SECURITY AND THE CALM OF OUR PEOPLE."

3. INFO MINISTER'S COMMENT; MINISTER OF INFO TAIBI BENHIMA DISCUSSED FOREGOING MESSAGE & RELATED MATTERS WITH AMBASSADOR NEUMANN AT FAREWELL DINNER HE WAS GIVING AMB FEB 28. BENHIMA'S MAIN POINTS:

(A) ALGERIAN CLAIM SDAR HEADQUARTERED AT BIR LEHLOU IN EASTERN SAKIET EL HARURD COMPLETELY FALSE. BIR LEHLOU REMAINED IN MOROCCAN HANDS, AND BENHIMA PREPARED MAKE PLANE AVAILABLE FOR WESTERN JOURNALISTS WHO WANTED TO GO THERE AND SEE FOR THEMSELVES.

(B) BENHIMA UNDERSTOOD RAIDO ALGIERS HAD JUST BEGUN TO WAFFLE ON BIR LEHLOU, I.E. IT NO LONGER CLAIMING SDAR IN BIR  
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LEHLOU ITSELF BUT ONLY THAT IT CAMPED IN VICINITY. FAR INSTRUCTED TO APPROACH DEFENSE ATTACHES ASSIGNED TO RABAT TODAY AND SHOW THEM AERIAL PHOTOS OF ENTIRE AREA AROUND BIR LEHLOU TO DEMONSTRATE IMPOSSIBILITY OF CONCEALING ANYTHING LIKE AN ENCAMPMENT OF TENTS IN SUCH OPEN TERRAIN. (NOTE: OUR DATT STANDING BY BUT NO APPROACH YET).

(C) BENHIMA APPEARED CERTAIN THAT WHATEVER MIGHT EXIST AS SDAR HEADQUARTERS WAS INSIDE ALGERIA, IN TINDOUF AREA.

(D) BENHIMA SAID SIGNIFICANCE OF KING'S MESSAGE WAS THAT IT

CONSTITUTED INSTRUCTIONS TO FAR TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES  
TO ENSURE THAT NO SUCH ENTITY AS SDAR HEADQUARTERS  
WOULD BE ALLOWED TO ESTABLISH ITSELF ON MOROCCAN TERRITORY.

4. COMMENT: BELIEVE DEVELOPMENTS REPORTED HERE PRESAGE  
INTENSIFIED CLEANUP OPERATIONS ON MOROCCAN SIDE OF BORDER.  
NEUMANN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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